

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School



HEAD TEACHER: MRS. A. D. THORPE

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS: MRS. C. HORSLEY

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21st January 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

Time is flying by and the children are all coming into school busy and full of smiles each morning, which is wonderful to see and enjoy; we are justifiably proud of all of our children who work so hard to become the best versions of themselves on a daily basis.

Attendance

On Friday, all parents/carers were sent a letter highlighting their child's attendance; it is very important that all our pupils attend school promptly every day. I am required by the Local Authority to monitor all pupils' attendance and report to parents, so from now on every child will receive one of these letters at the start of each new term, I am ably supported by the local Authority and have used their letter templates to illustrate pupils' attendance. Last term, 124 children from year 1 to year 6 missed at least one session; 24 children in reception missed at least one session. Please remember that school starts at 8:50am and all pupils are expected to be lined up in the yard ready to go into school with their class teacher. I greatly appreciate your efforts with working with me to improve your child's attendance.

Attendance of the Week

The attendance for last week is as follows:

Reception	96.2%
Year 1	97.7%
Year 2	92.3%
Year 3	98.0%
Year 4	96.0%
Year 5	97.3%
Year 6	95.7%

Many congratulations to Year 3 who had the best attendance this week, those pupils will be rewarded with an extra slot of outdoor time in the sunshine! This gives the school an overall weekly attendance of 96.1% for the week.

Cyber awareness

It has come to my attention that videos of a character named Jeffy has gone viral amongst children using Youtube. This content is highly inappropriate for children, despite the fact that it might seem friendly at first glance (puppets, classrooms etc). This includes graphic sexual content. I have also been made aware that these videos are still available to view in restricted mode.

I would strongly advise parents to monitor their children's online activity carefully at home, especially with sites such as Youtube, which contains user generated content. You are also able to report inappropriate content using Youtubes reporting systems.

I am including a copy of our parents Online safety guide with this letter and informing you that this week all pupils will take part in a cyber awareness course in school.

Adam Bushnell

In some fantastic news, last Thursday and Friday Adam Bushnell was in school leading drama act and literacy activities with all the classes; this culminated in a wonderful celebratory assembly on Friday afternoon. All pupils took part and this week there is a wonderful buzz around school; pupils are producing some fabulous stories inspired by his art and drama work.

SVP Christmas Card Design

Before Christmas, pupils were all invited to design a new Christmas Card for the Diocesan SVP group. Only ten pupils from across the Diocese were short-listed to have their card design made into the SVP one for Christmas 2019. A pupils' Lilly Fulthorpe, design has been shortlisted and we should find out soon if she has won; although it is already fantastic news that she has been shortlisted out of thousands of entries.

Dates for your Diaries

Please look below and keep an eye on the dates for your diaries. I will send a new copy every week and it is important that you check the newest copy as all changes will be made on a weekly basis and it is always best to refer to the most recent copy.

I hope you all have a safe and peaceful week at work this week.

Kind regards,

Mrs A. D. Thorpe
Headteacher



The Spring Term 'Dates for the Diary'

Date and Time	Details of the Events (Updated 21/01/2019)
January	
17 TH & 18 th January	Adam Bushnell – whole school event
20 th January	Safer Road Initiative in school – all pupils to be involved
24 th January	Year 5 & Year 6 Dance Festival
28 th January at 9:15am	Year 3 Class Liturgy Families all welcome in the school hall
28 th January	Book Reading Day with Neil Sullivan
29 th January	Reception and Year 6 Heights and Weights
February	
1 st February	Year 4 Swimming Assessment
4 th February	Year 2 Mammal Web Workshop
5 th February	Whole School – Selfish Giant hosted by Oscar Wilde Theatre Company
6 th February	Mass at the Cathedral
8 th February	Year 5 Swimming Assessment
10 th February	LKS2 Mass in Church at 11am
12 th February	School Nurse drop in 08:30 to 09:30
15 th February	Year 6 Swimming Assessment
17 th February	Year 4 First Holy Communion Liturgy at 11am
18 th – 22 nd February	Half Term
27 th February	Year 4 First Holy Communion Session 15:30 to 16:30
March	
3 rd March	Year 4 First Holy Communion Liturgy at 11am
4 th – 8 th March	Whole School Sponsored Read
6 th March	Ash Wednesday service in Church at 14:00
6 th March	Year 4 First Holy Communion Liturgy between 15:30 & 16:30
7 th March	World Book Day and Sponsored reading event all week
10 th March	KS1 Mass and First Holy Communion Liturgy in Church at 11am
11 th March	Year 2 Class Liturgy at 09:15
15 th March	Sponsored Reading Event Money to be returned to school
15 th March	Year 3 Oriental Museum trip?
18 th March	Reception Woodfest Intro Session
18 th March	Writing Moderation for the Whole School
19 th March	School Nurse drop in between 08:30 & 09:30
19 th March	St Joseph the Husband of Mary Mass in Church at 09:30
20 th March	Reception Chopwell Woods Trip
29 th March	Whole School Judaism Day
April	
3 rd April	Year 4 First Holy Communion Liturgy between 15:30 & 16:30
5 th April	Stations of the Cross (Year 6 lead) in Church at 09:30
8 th – 23 rd April	Easter Holidays

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